

Knight Scholar[®]

Knowledge-Networking-Innovation Graduate Health-System Training

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1. What is the Knight Scholar Program?** This longitudinal advanced pharmacy practice experience (APPE) program is intended to provide motivated P4 students with a diversified block of four APPEs in a single health-system. The program is also designed to create a network of students, preceptors, and health-systems who can share innovative practices in pharmacy practice, research, and scholarship. Upon completion of the program, the student will have gained:
 - a. Knowledge and skills necessary to function as an active contributor to patient care as a member of the healthcare team.
 - b. Experience that will prepare him/her for life in a postgraduate training program
- 2. What sites participate in the Knight Scholar program?** Students can participate in the program at the following sites: Capital Health (Trenton and Pennington, NJ), St. Barnabas Medical Center (Livingston, NJ), Hunterdon Medical Center (Flemington, NJ), Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital – Somerset (Somerville, NJ), St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center (Paterson, NJ), and St. Peter’s University Hospital (New Brunswick, NJ).
- 3. What APPEs are available for Knight Scholar students?** The Knight Scholar Program composes of four consecutive five-week APPEs within each site. The rotations include Hospital Pharmacy Practice and a combination of three clinically-oriented rotations.
- 4. How many students can participate?** The total number of Knight Scholar positions is 17.
 - a. Capital Health: 4
 - b. Hunterdon Medical Center: 2
 - c. Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital – Somerset: 4
 - d. St. Barnabas Medical Center: 3
 - e. St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center: 2
 - f. St. Peter’s University Hospital: 2
- 5. Who is eligible to participate?** This program is offered to P3 students who will begin their experiential education program in May 2018.

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6. **Is there a minimum GPA required to participate in the Knight Scholar program?** Students must have a GPA greater than or equal to 3.0 to apply.

7. **How do I apply for the Knight Scholar program?** Students interested in the Knight Scholar program must email the following to dabazia@pharmacy.rutgers.edu:

- a. Letter of interest detailing reasons for Knight Scholar participation
- b. Curriculum Vitae or resume
- c. Current transcripts (unofficial is acceptable)

To ensure fairness and equanimity, students will rank in order of preference, the Knight Scholar site in which they wish to participate. If the number of students who rank a particular site exceeds the number of open slots, the student will move into his/her next ranked site. Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy faculty and site preceptors will review the above documents to select the most appropriate students for their site.

8. **Is there an opportunity to apply to the Knight Scholar program once you've started your APPEs?** The Knight Scholar selection process takes place during the late Fall semester of the P3 year. Students are not accepted at a later time.

9. **Does participating in the Knight Scholar limit my rotation choices?** Each Knight Scholar site has different APPEs available to the student (Students are required to complete their APPE Hospital Practice rotation at their Knight Scholar site.). The only requirement for the remaining four or five APPEs is that the students complies with EMSOP Experiential Program policy.

10. **Other than a research project, what other requirements is part of the Knight Scholar program?** In addition to the development and completion of a research project suitable for presentation and/or publication, Knight Scholar students are encouraged to plan and implement a service project to be completed in collaboration with the other Knight Scholar students at the site.

11. **Is it possible to complete a research project and/or present a poster at Midyear without participating in the Knight Scholar program?** Pharmacy faculty and preceptors try to accommodate research requests from students not participating in the Knight Scholar program depending upon available resources. Any student completing a research project, regardless of professional year, can choose to submit an abstract to ASHP for consideration for poster presentation at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting.

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12. **How are research projects chosen for Knight Scholar students?** Pharmacy faculty and preceptors at each site collaborate to develop a list of research project ideas. The specific selection process may differ amongst the sites. Students often have the opportunity to rank their top choices from the list and/or discuss their clinical and/or practice interests with site faculty to assist in project selection.
13. **Do most/all Knight Scholar students present a poster at Midyear?** Presenting a poster at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting is *highly encouraged*; however a Knight Scholar student may choose to submit an abstract for presentation at another professional meeting if approved by their research mentor. Students participating in the Knight Scholar program are required to present their research findings at the Rutgers Pharmacy Research Day in April.
14. **What additional costs will students be responsible for if they participate in the Knight Scholar program?** There are costs related to the requirement of presenting a poster at a professional meeting including all printing and travel-related expenses.
15. **Is it imperative that I get into the Knight Scholar if my career plans include participating in a residency after graduation?** Many students make the decision NOT to apply to the Knight Scholar program, receive an outstanding education during their P4 practice experiences, and go on to do a residency or other type of postgraduate training.
16. **I'm not interested in doing a residency, but the Knight Scholar program offers advanced opportunities that I am interested in, may I apply?** While the Knight Scholar program is designed for students who are interested in pursuing postgraduate training, we encourage all students to apply who are interested in challenging themselves in an honors-like program.